

**DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION**

DIVISION OF TRANSPORTATION PLANNING, MS-32

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May 25, 2004

Ms. Robin Sweeney

EIS Document Manager, Office of National Transportation

Office of Civilian Radioactive Waste Management

U.S. Department of Energy

1551 Hillshire Drive, M/S 001

Las Vegas, NV 89134

**Subject: Notice of Intent to Prepare an Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Alignment, Construction, and Operation of a Rail Line to a Geologic Repository at Yucca Mountain, Nye County, NV, Federal Register dated April 8, 2004, Letter dated April 22, 2004**

Dear Ms. Sweeney:

The California Department of Transportation (Department) understands that the subject EIS will address one portion (Caliente Rail Corridor) of the proposal to dispose of spent nuclear fuel and high-level radioactive waste at Yucca Mountain. As the agency responsible for ensuring the safe mobility of the public and the integrity of the State Highway System (SHS), however, the Department stresses the need to include the following items in the scope of the project EIS:

1. Proposed California truck routes and rail-to-truck intermodal transfer facilities, noting which will be part of the permanent plan with the rail project, and which will be used until the Caliente line would be built;
2. Associated impacts and proposed mitigation for the routes, including mitigation funding;
3. Transportation facilities security and emergency response issues;
4. A time line, including the schedule for development of the rail line and material shipments;
5. Alternatives if the Caliente line is not built or not ready in time for shipments;
6. Rail and repository construction activities that would affect the SHS, in essence, material transport, visual impacts, access, etc.

Thank you for the opportunity to review the subject notice. Please direct questions about the comments to me at 916.653.0808 or via email at [Betty L Miller@dot.ca.gov](mailto:Betty.L.Miller@dot.ca.gov).

Sincerely,

Betty Miller

Intergovernmental Review Coordinator

Office of Community Planning

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